

Serial No.: 10/605,436
Docket No. BUR920030039US1
(P27363)

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REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-25 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 14, 16 and, 24, 25 are amended and claims 2 and 15 are canceled. The above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification. Reconsideration of the rejected claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 2-11 and 15-23 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants amend claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Applicants further amend claim 25 to include similar subject matter as recited in now canceled claim 2. Claim 8 is amended into independent format to include the features of claim 1 and any intervening claim. Claim 14 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 15.

By these amendments, Applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance and that the rejection under 102(b) is now moot and should be withdrawn.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings were objected to based on informalities. Figures 3 and 4 are revised. In Figure 3, the first lead arrow is deleted. In Figure 4, the information provided in each of the steps is clarified.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed. Applicant hereby makes a written conditional petition for extension of time, if required. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. . 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted,



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REPLACEMENT DRAWINGS

Attached hereto are replacement drawings for figures 3 and 4, without any markings. The changes to the drawings are explained below, in the "REMARKS" section. All of the drawings on the replacement sheet, as originally filed, are provided herein. The header of each revised drawing sheet includes the following information: (i) "Replacement Sheet", (ii) application number and (iii) date information. The Examiner is requested to provide an indication of such consideration in the next Office Action.